

Club Drugs: Rohypnol

Effects

Rohypnol is the common name for the drug flunitrazepam. It belongs to a class of drugs called benzodiazepines. Valium also belongs to this group of drugs. Benzodiazepines are depressants and make you drowsy, relaxed, less anxious, and some are used to treat insomnia. Rohypnol is 10 times more powerful than Valium, and can also cause amnesia. It is not used legally in the United States.

Uses

Rohypnol can be snorted, taken orally, or injected. People who use cocaine use it to mellow their high (if they get too speedy/jittery), and those who use heroin use it to lessen their withdrawal symptoms. Some combine alcohol or marijuana with Rohypnol, to try to get a better high.

Also known as...

Rohypnol has also become known as the date rape drug, as rapists could easily slip a tablet into a victim's drink, and then wait for the drug to take effect. Rohypnol also causes amnesia (loss of memory), so even if a victim didn't completely lose consciousness, after the attack, he/she still wouldn't remember anything that happened later.

Recently, Hoffman-La Roche, the manufacturer of Rohypnol, began making it in green tablets longer to dissolve. This way, if it were slipped into a drink, the tablet could be seen in the bottom of the glass and as it dissolved, and it would discolor the drink. Hoffman-La Roche is in the process of requesting approval for this new formula of Rohypnol in the 80 countries where it is still legal.



What to do if you think your drink has been spiked, or you've been drugged

You need to get medical attention immediately! Make sure someone stays with you at all times, especially if you are at a rave or club, until emergency services arrive. To prevent being drugged in the first place, it's important to never leave your drink unattended or let someone you don't know buy you a drink.

<http://www.health.org/pubs/nida/infobox/RohypnolGHB.htm>

<http://www.drugfreeamerica.org/roofies.html>

For more information please contact:

ADEPT 405 West Fifth Street Suite 211, Santa Ana, CA 92701 (714) 834-4058

www.oc.ca.gov/hca/public/ADEPT